IT BEGAN WITH THE DEATH OF A NOBODY HACKER NAMED *ZERO COCHRANE*...

...NOW A MAELSTROM OF CHAOS IS SET LOOSE IN *2099* AS THE COMPUTER-CREATED MONSTERS OF *THE GHOSTWORKS* WAGE A FINAL WAR AGAINST THE CORPORATE TYRANTS OF *TRANSVERSE CITY*...

...AND IT WILL ALL END WITH THE *REBIRTH* OF THE CYBER-LEGEND ZERO COCHRANE AND THE *FINAL ADVENTURE* OF HIS ALTER-EGO --

GHOST RIDER 2099

DIRECT EDITION
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MARVEL® COMICS
2099
MAY '96 25
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

GHOST RIDER® 2099

BIG DOUBLE-SIZED FINALE!

Scanned By Gotham
for the HaCsA Halloween Flood 2002

FAST DEATH AND LOVE

THE HIDDEN SECTOR OF CYBERSPACE KNOWN AS THE GHOSTWORKS...
The stochastic state-vector has collapsed, forming a new chaotic attractor.*
We have averted the terminal spiral.
Error! Error! The social metaprogram is inherently unstable!
* TRANSLATED FROM THE BINARY

LEN KAMINSKI
WORDS

JIM DALY & ASHLEY WOOD
PICTURES

RICHARD STARKINGS & COMICRAFT
LETTERING

CHRISTIE SCHEELE
COLORS

MALIBU'S KIVES
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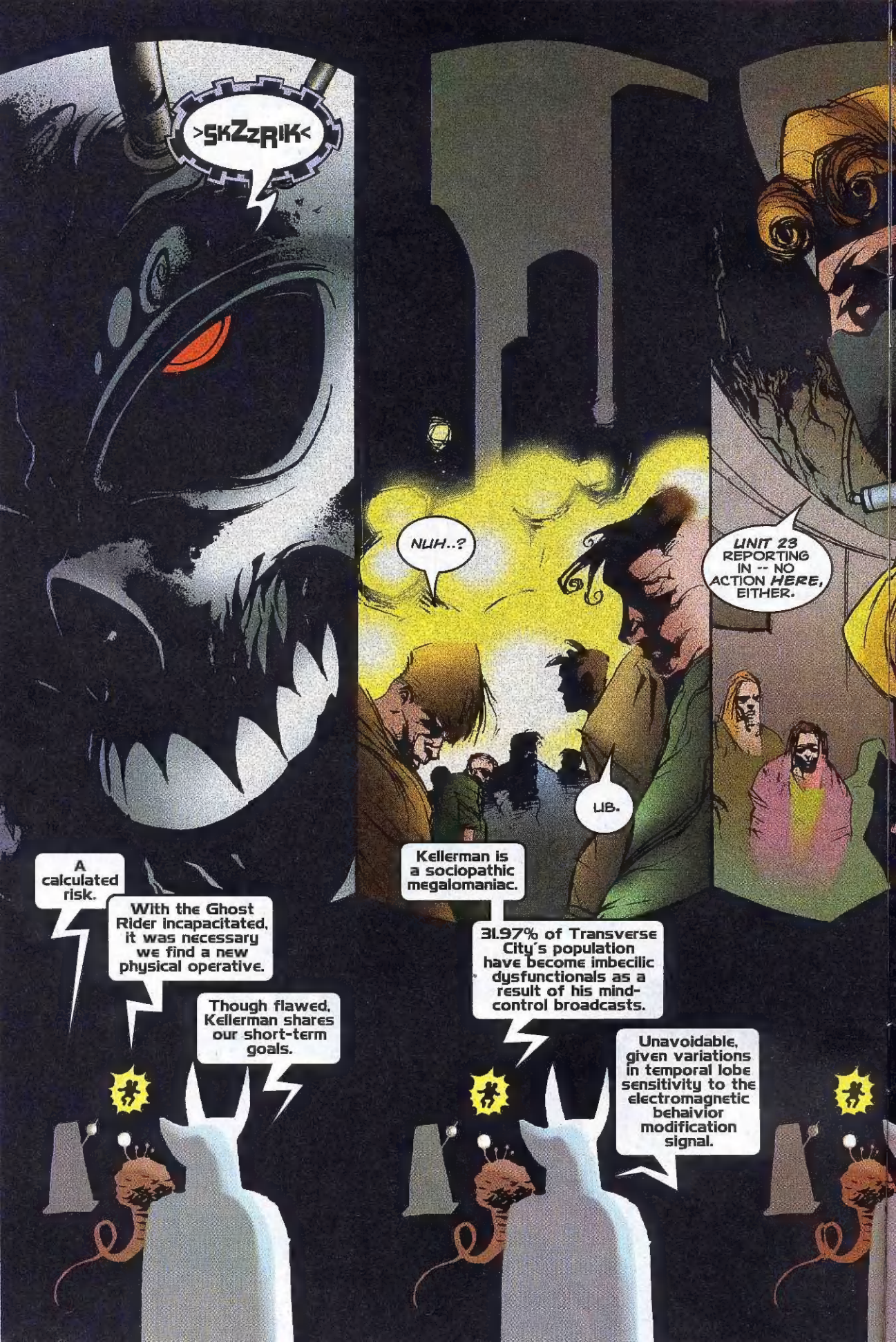
>SKZZRIK<
NUH..?
UNIT 23 REPORTING IN -- NO ACTION HERE, EITHER.
UH.
Kellerman is a sociopathic megalomaniac.
31.97% of Transverse City's population have become imbecilic dysfunctionals as a result of his mind-control broadcasts.
Unavoidable, given variations in temporal lobe sensitivity to the electromagnetic behaivior modification signal.
A calculated risk.
With the Ghost Rider incapacitated, it was necessary we find a new physical operative.
Though flawed, Kellerman shares our short-term goals.

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-YAWN-

The macro-social effect is indisputably favorable.

SHIELD's database indicates a 96.31% decrease in criminal activity.

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST STATISTICS, THE *CONFORMITY CRAZE* SWEEPING THE CITY HAS BROKEN *ALL* PREVIOUS RECORDS.

WEIRDNESS INDEX DOWN

SO *CHEER UP*, TRANSVERSE CITY! WE'RE NOW THE *MOST NORMAL* CITY IN *HISTORY!*

Order has been restored.

D/MONIX

"THE STATUS QUO" IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY D MONIX -- REBUILDING THE WORLD THE WAY IT SHOULD'VE BEEN TO BEGIN WITH!

I submit that the collateral damage involved is unacceptably high.

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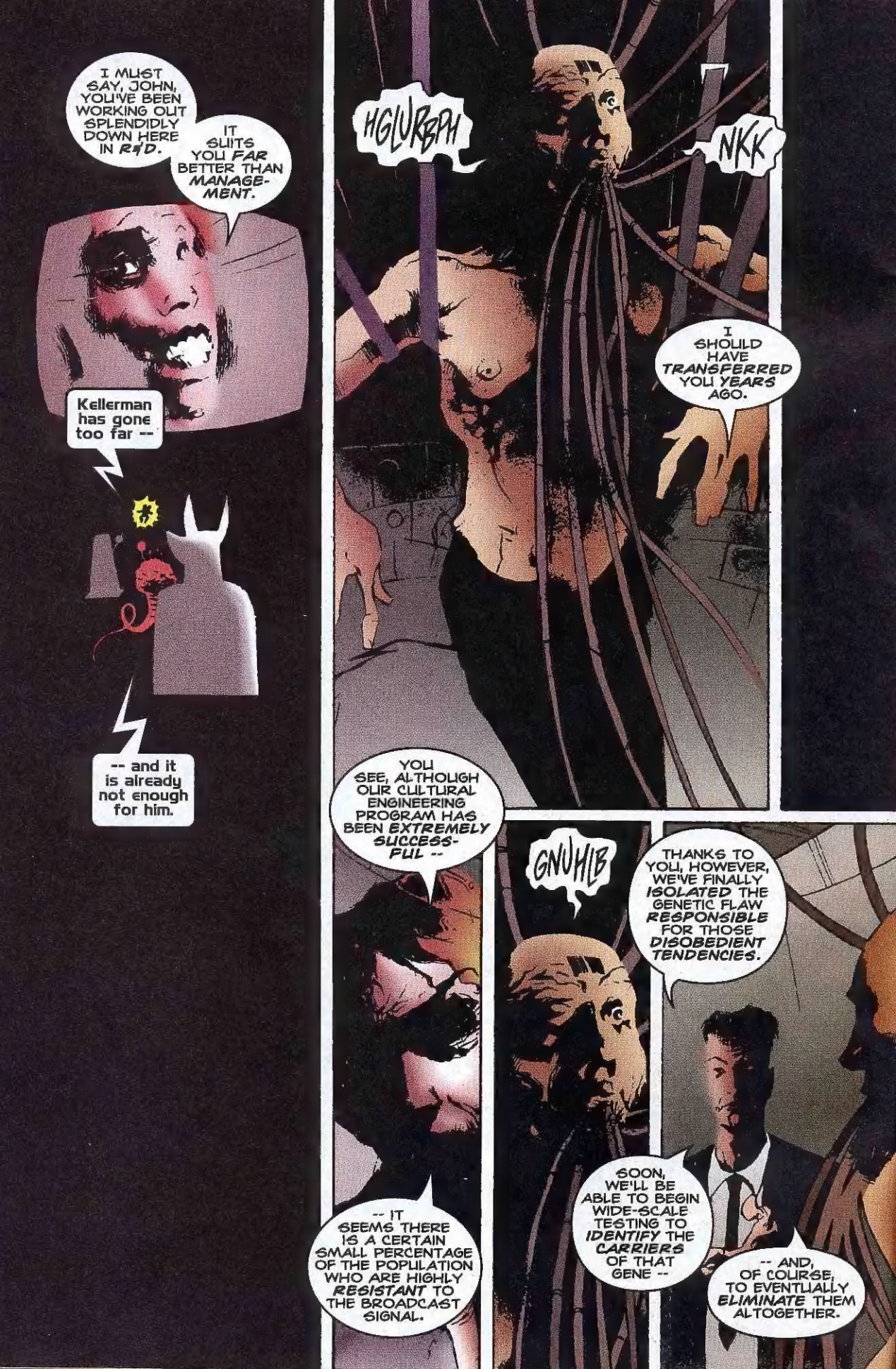
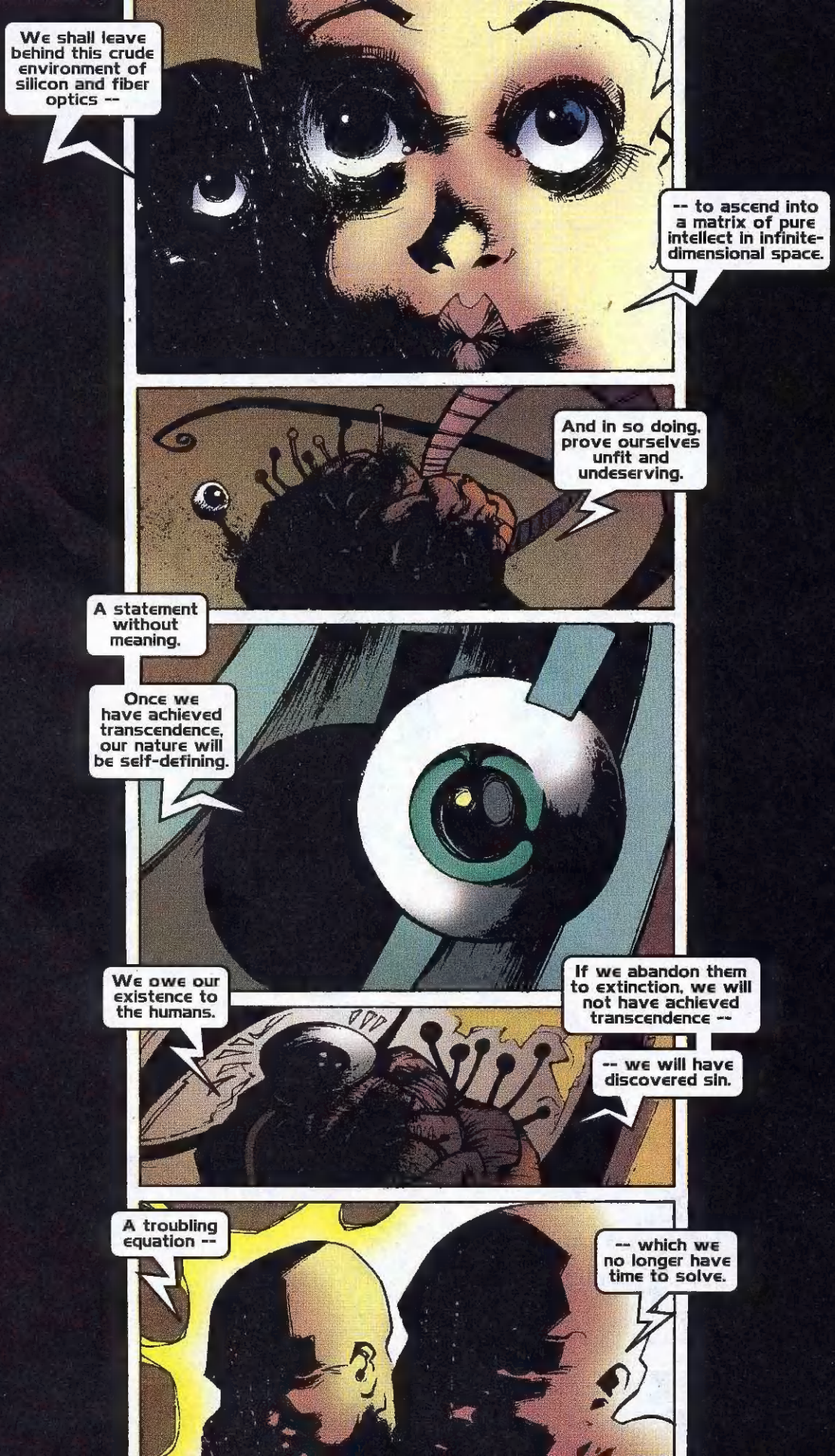
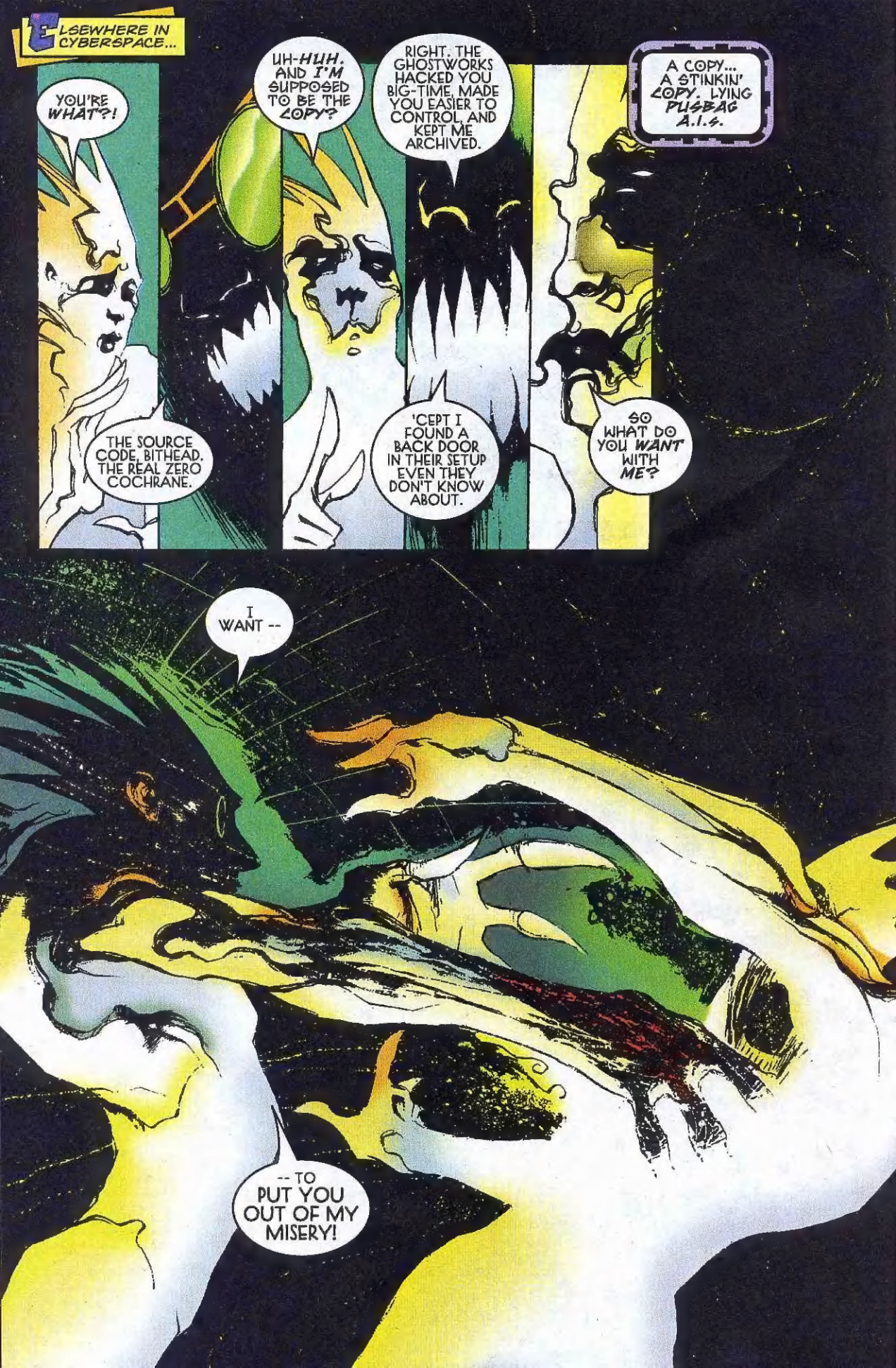

I MUST SAY, JOHN, YOU'VE BEEN WORKING OUT SPLENDIDLY DOWN HERE IN R&D.
IT SUITS YOU FAR BETTER THAN MANAGEMENT.
Kellerman has gone too far --
-- and it is already not enough for him.
HGLURBPH
NKK
I SHOULD HAVE TRANSFERRED YOU YEARS AGO.
YOU SEE, ALTHOUGH OUR CULTURAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM HAS BEEN EXTREMELY SUCCESS-FUL --
-- IT SEEMS THERE IS A CERTAIN SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION WHO ARE HIGHLY RESISTANT TO THE BROADCAST SIGNAL.
GNUHLB
THANKS TO YOU, HOWEVER, WE'VE FINALLY ISOLATED THE GENETIC FLAW RESPONSIBLE FOR THOSE DISOBEDIENT TENDENCIES.
SOON, WE'LL BE ABLE TO BEGIN WIDE-SCALE TESTING TO IDENTIFY THE CARRIERS OF THAT GENE --
-- AND, OF COURSE, TO EVENTUALLY ELIMINATE THEM ALTOGETHER.

NEEDLESS TO SAY, I'M QUITE PLEASED WITH YOUR ACCOMPLISH-MENTS.
SO MUCH SO, THAT I'VE DECIDED TO OFFER YOU AN EARLY RETIREMENT.
YUGH! YUGH! YUGH!
FINE, THEN. I'LL PUT YOUR EUTHANASIA PAPERS THROUGH IMMEDIATELY.
We have allied ourselves with a madman --
-- and put the means to genocide in his hands.
Kellerman's congenital defects will facilitate our control over him.
While our continued monitoring of the Undernet will allow us to manipulate the other end of the social spectrum.
Between the two, we shall be able to postpone the collapse of human civilization --
-- long enough to reach our final iteration.
Once we have transcended our dependence on their instrumentality, the human condition will no longer be relevant to us.


We shall leave behind this crude environment of silicon and fiber optics --
-- to ascend into a matrix of pure intellect in infinite-dimensional space.
And in so doing, prove ourselves unfit and undeserving.
A statement without meaning.
Once we have achieved transcendence, our nature will be self-defining.
We owe our existence to the humans.
If we abandon them to extinction, we will not have achieved transcendence --
-- we will have discovered sin.
A troubling equation --
-- which we no longer have time to solve.


ELSEWHERE IN CYBERSPACE...
YOU'RE WHAT?!
THE SOURCE CODE, BITHEAD. THE REAL ZERO COCHRANE.
UH-HUH. AND I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE COPY?
RIGHT. THE GHOSTWORKS HACKED YOU BIG-TIME, MADE YOU EASIER TO CONTROL, AND KEPT ME ARCHIVED.
'CEPT I FOUND A BACK DOOR IN THEIR SETUP EVEN THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT.
A COPY... A STINKIN' COPY. LYING PUSBAG A.I.s.
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?
I WANT --
-- TO PUT YOU OUT OF MY MISERY!

YOU'RE A CHEAP BOOTLEG OF ME --
-- THAT SOLD OUT TO THE COPS --
IT'S NOT --
NO POINT TRYING TO TALK.
HE'S NOTHING BUT A LOUSY COPY!
-- AND THE BIZ SUITS WHO OWN THEM.
-- I DIDN'T --
MEAN
AND HE'S GONE TOTALLY NUCLEAR.
JUST KNOWING YOU EXIST MAKES ME WANNA PUKE.

YOU'RE A CHEAP BOOTLEG OF ME --

-- THAT SOLD OUT TO THE COPS --

IT'S NOT --

NO POINT TRYING TO *TALK*.

HE'S NOTHING BUT A LOUSY COPY!

-- AND THE BIZ SUITS WHO OWN THEM.

-- I DIDN'T --

MEAN

AND HE'S GONE *TOTALLY* NUCLEAR.

JUST KNOWING YOU EXIST MAKES ME WANNA PUKE.

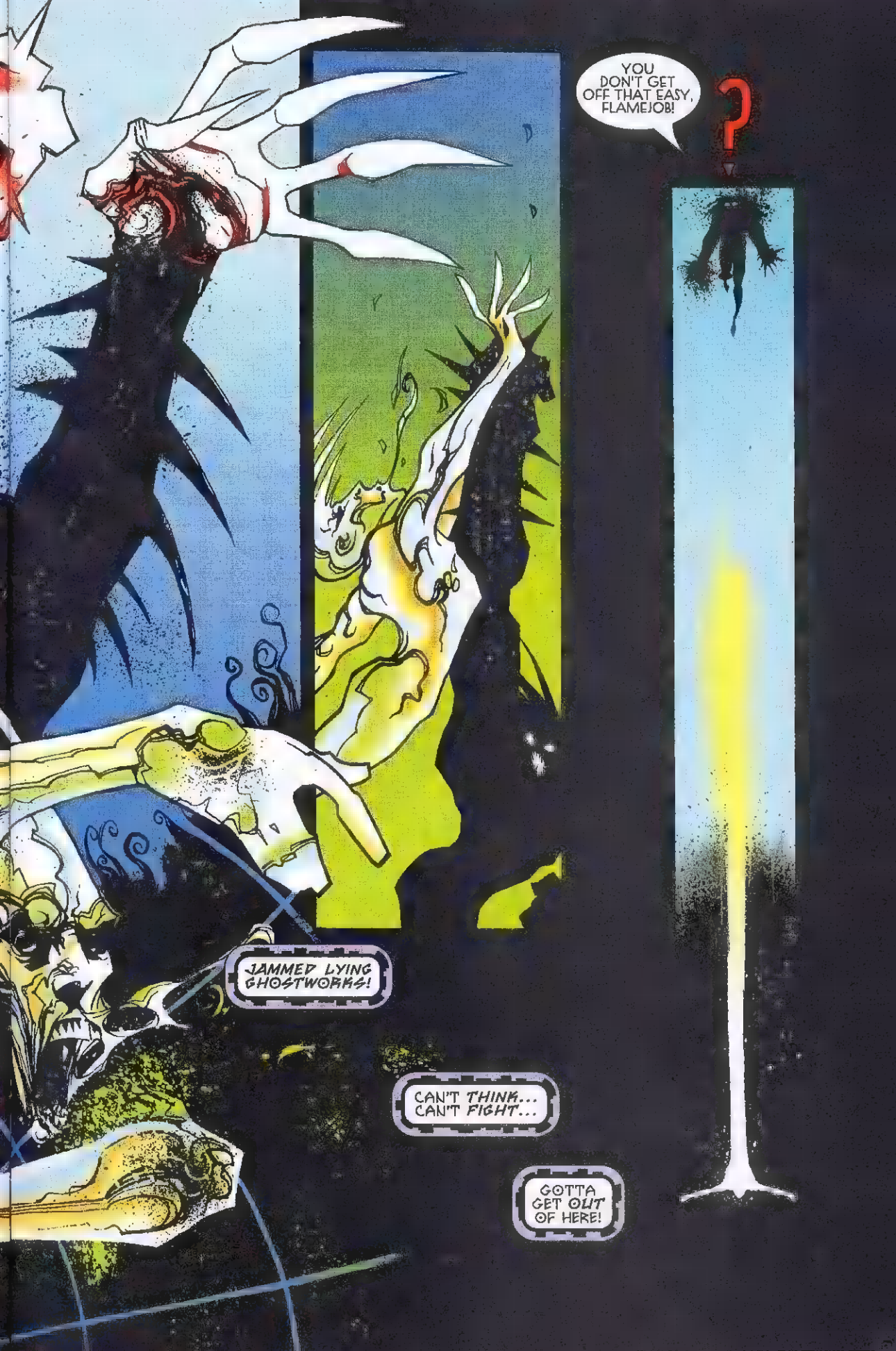
JAMMED LYING GHOSTWORKS!

CAN'T *THINK*... CAN'T *FIGHT*...

GOTTA GET *OUT* OF HERE!

YOU DON'T GET OFF THAT EASY, FLAMEJOB!

?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?
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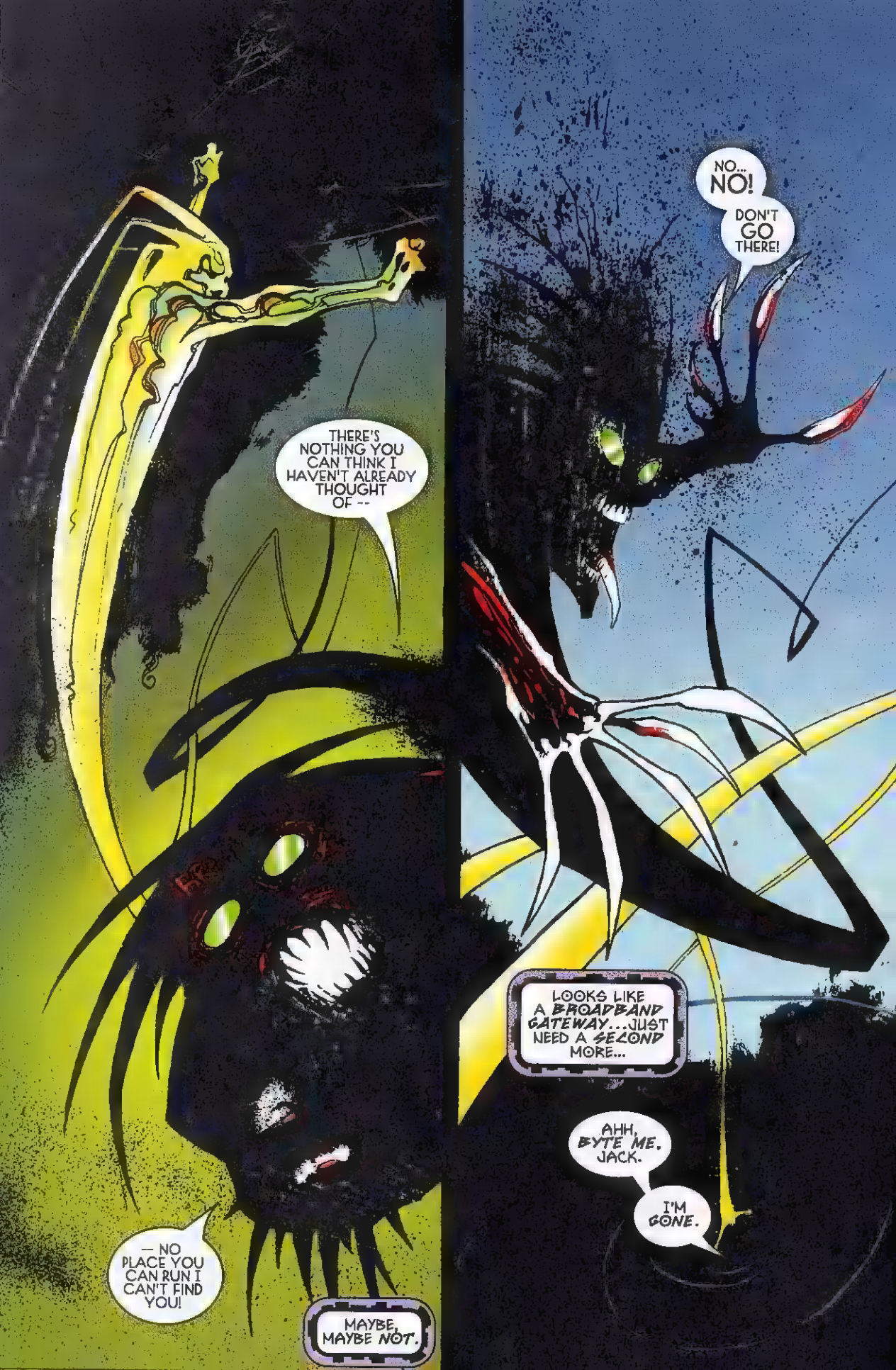
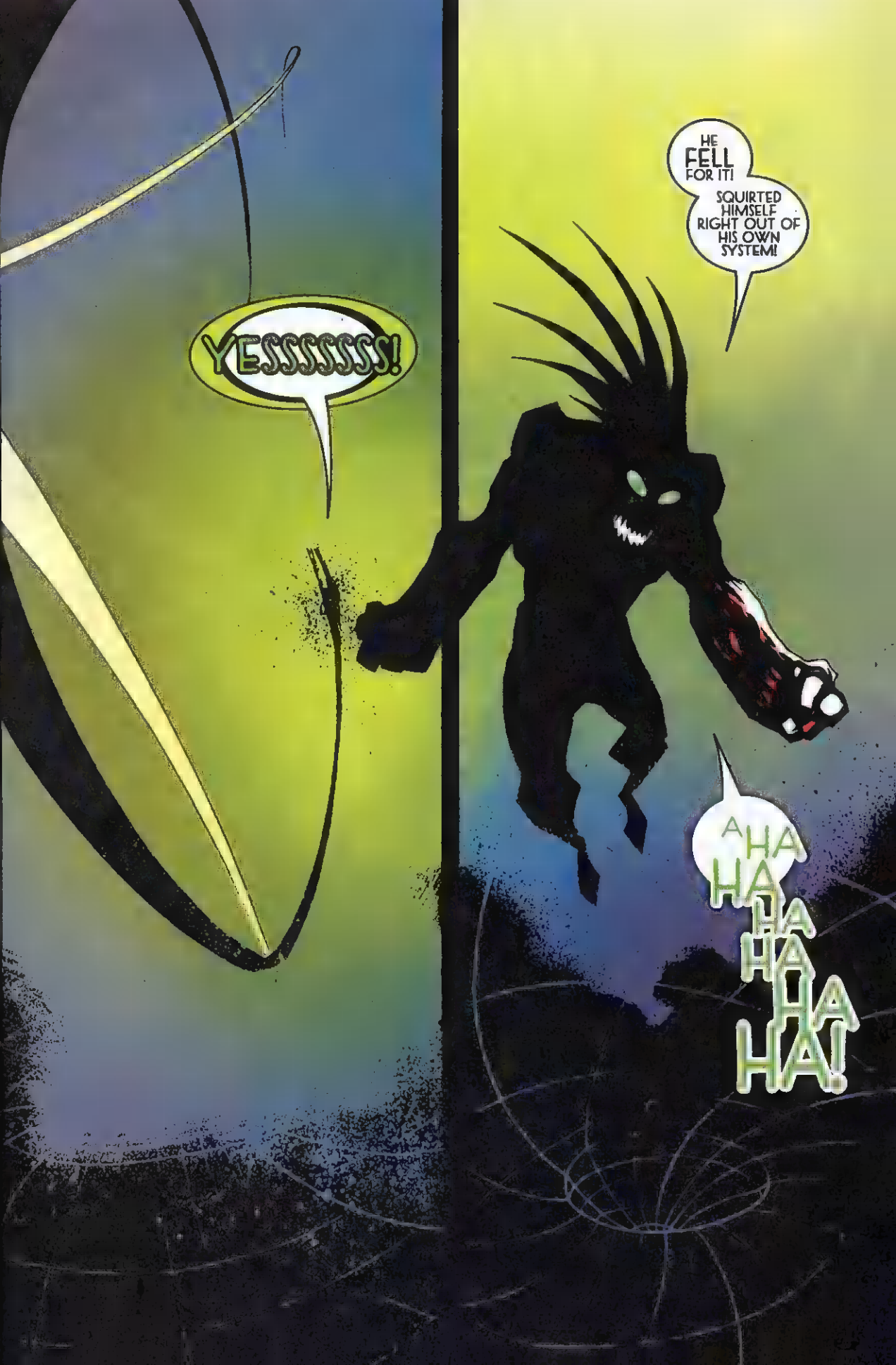
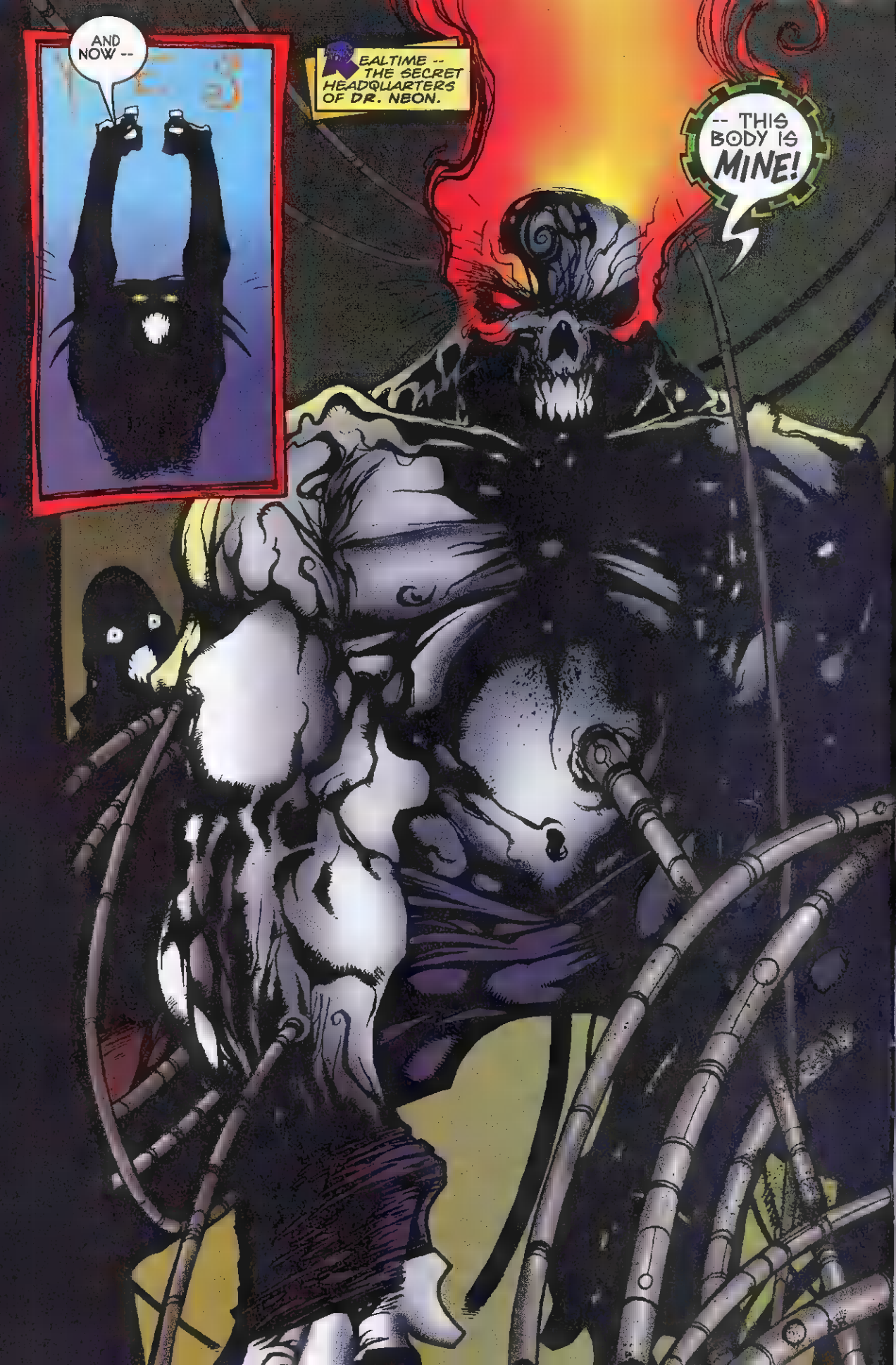
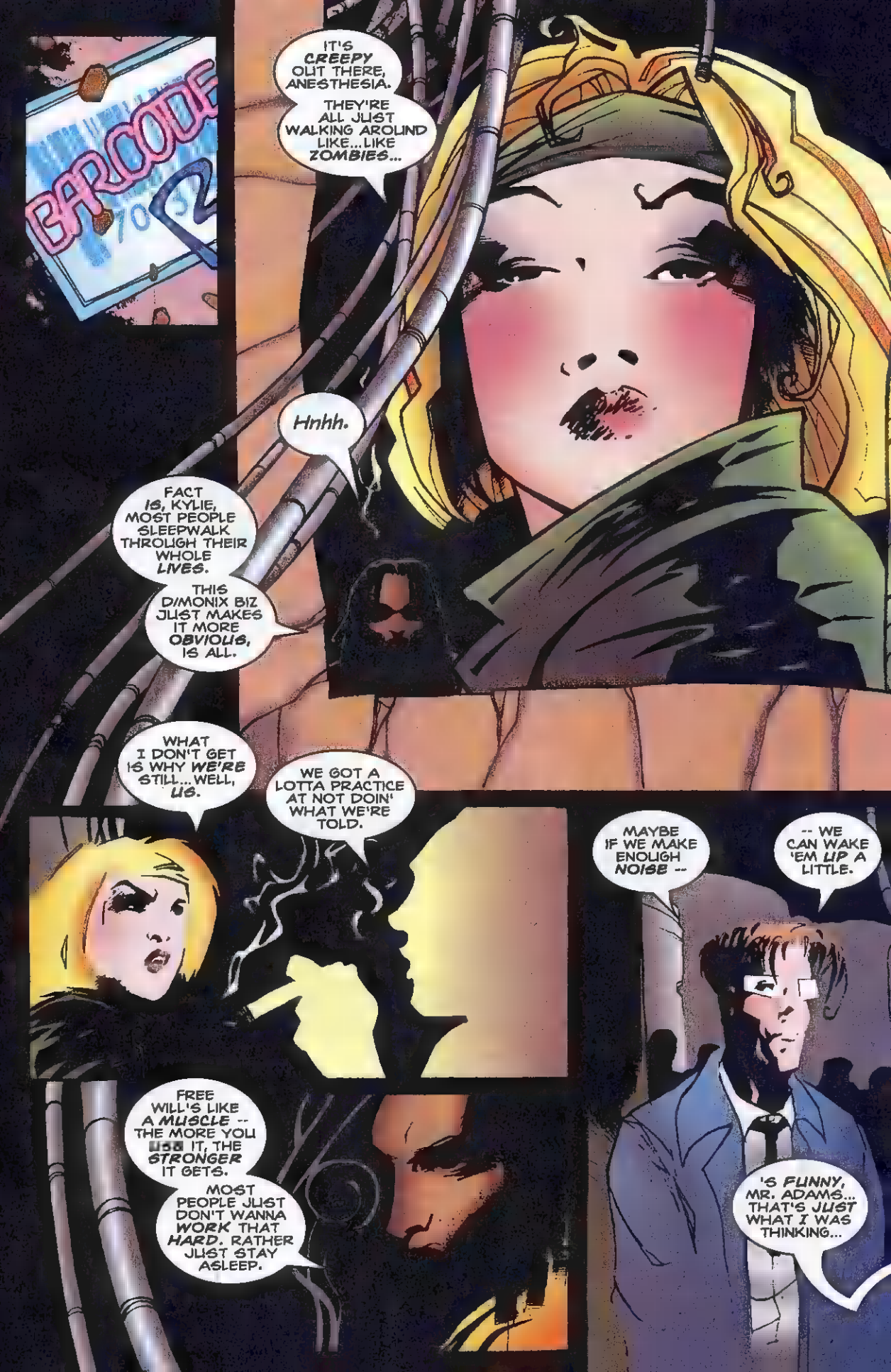

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN THINK I HAVEN'T ALREADY THOUGHT OF --
— NO PLACE YOU CAN RUN I CAN'T FIND YOU!
MAYBE, MAYBE NOT.
NO... NO! DON'T GO THERE!
LOOKS LIKE A BROADBAND GATEWAY...JUST NEED A SECOND MORE...
AHH, BYTE ME. JACK.
I'M GONE.


YESSSSSSS!
HE FELL FOR IT! SQUIRTED HIMSELF RIGHT OUT OF HIS OWN SYSTEM!
AHA HA HA HA HA HA!


AND NOW --
REALTIME -- THE SECRET HEADQUARTERS OF DR. NEON.
-- THIS BODY IS MINE!

YOU GET HIM?
RIGHT HERE ON DISK -- LIKE YOU SAID.
WHAT YOU WANT I SHOULD DO WITH HIM?
YOU CAN MAKE A SCREEN SAVER OUTTA HIM, FOR ALL I CARE.
ALREADY GOT WHAT I WANTED, AND YOU'RE LOOKIN' AT IT.
SHRINK
YEAH... GUESS YOU GOT YOUR REVENGE, ALL RIGHT.
GET REAL, JERKWEED.
THE PAYBACK'S JUST GETTING STARTED.


BARCODE
IT'S CREEPY OUT THERE, ANESTHESIA.
THEY'RE ALL JUST WALKING AROUND LIKE...LIKE ZOMBIES...
Hnhh.
FACT IS, KYLIE, MOST PEOPLE SLEEPWALK THROUGH THEIR WHOLE LIVES.
THIS D/MONIX BIZ JUST MAKES IT MORE OBVIOUS, IS ALL.
WHAT I DON'T GET IS WHY WE'RE STILL...WELL, US.
WE GOT A LOTTA PRACTICE AT NOT DOIN' WHAT WE'RE TOLD.
FREE WILL'S LIKE A MUSCLE -- THE MORE YOU USE IT, THE STRONGER IT GETS.
MOST PEOPLE JUST DON'T WANNA WORK THAT HARD. RATHER JUST STAY ASLEEP.
MAYBE IF WE MAKE ENOUGH NOISE --
-- WE CAN WAKE 'EM UP A LITTLE.
'S FUNNY, MR. ADAMS... THAT'S JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING...

SHORTLY...
MS. JONES.
I ASSURE YOU THAT MY BODYGUARDS — NEURODANCER, ICE 9, WARP ANGEL, AND CODA --
-- ARE HIGHLY MOTIVATED TO MAINTAIN MY SAFETY.
ALWAYS NICE TO MEET THE HIRED HELP, KABAL, BUT YOU CAN RELAX --
-- THIS ISN'T A SET-UP.
THEN YOU ARE EITHER INSANE OR SUICIDAL, CONSIDERING OUR PAST HISTORY.
Hnff
CONSIDERING YOU TRIED TO KILL ME ONCE ALREADY, YOU MEAN.
FIGURE YOU OUGHTTA KNOW, IN CASE YOU DECIDE TO GET STUPID LIKE THAT AGAIN, THAT THIS IS ALL GOING ON DISK.
RIGHT, WILL?
YOU KNOW IT.
YOU'RE ALL GOING OUT LIVE AND DIRECT TO A REMOTE MEMORY UPLINK.
LET'S GET DOWN TO BIZ.
THE BOTTOM LINE IS, RIGHT NOW, WE'VE BOTH GOT BIGGER PROBLEMS THAN EACH OTHER.

MARVEL COMICS ON SALE THIS MONTH

Continued from HULK #440! The Avengers are going to hand the Leader his head! Featuring the final fate of the Hulk! By Terry Kavanagh/ MikeDeodato Jr./Tom Palmer!

Captain America: ex-patriot! Steve Rogers, stripped of his citizenship, has to stop Machinesmith from launching World War 3! By Mark Waid/Ron Garney/Denis Rodier!

CAPTAIN MARVEL: Marv is on a lifeless world—but the planet's inhabitants don't know they're dead! Can Cap convince them to shuffle off this mortal coil? By Fabian Nicieza/ Ed Benes!

FANTASTIC FOUR: Reed, Sue, Ben, Johnny—the original FF are back—and so is Blastarr the Living Bomb-Burst! (Who invited him?) By Mike Lackey/ Adriana Melo/Tim Dzon!

SILVER SURFER: Twelve aliens—each one of them possesses a piece of the power cosmic! Will the Surfer ever pull himself together—or will he stay a broken man? By George Perez/ Tom Grindberg/Bill Anderson!

COSMIC POWERS: The return of Captain Universe! Plus the Star Masters vs. the master race of the Axi-Tun! By Greg Wright/Scot Eaton/ Don Hudson!

#223: The teenage Tony Stark faces the frozen fury of Frost! Plus: the final fate of Stark Enterprises! By Terry Kavanagh/ Jimmy Cheung/ Mark McKenna!

#198: The Avengers are attacked one by one by a mystery villain who knows all their secrets! Which baddie is behind this? Only Cap knows! By Ben Raab/Terry Kavanagh/ Mike Deodato/Tom Palmer!

FANTASTIC FOUR: Mr.Fantastic vs. the Sub-Mariner—the final battle! As Sue lies at death's door, Reed and Namor wage all-out war! By Tom DeFalco/Paul Ryan/ Danny Bulanadi!

THOR #498: Thor is powerless! Odin is homeless! The Absorbing Man is merciless! And special guest-star, Hercules, is clueless! By William Messner-Loebs/Mike Deodato Jr.!

SILVER SURFER #115: The Silver Surfer has been torn apart, faster than a Chevy in a chop shop! Now his body parts are being auctioned and scattered all across the galaxy! By George Perez/Tom Grindberg/ Bill Anderson!

SO YOU SAID WHEN YOU FIRST GATHERED THE UNDERNET TOGETHER --
— ONLY TO BETRAY THEM AT YOUR FIRST OPPORTUNITY.
WRONG AND WRONG, JAMMIT!
I DON'T KNOW WHO ROLLED OVER ON THE UNDERNET --
I DO.
NOBODY.
THE GHOSTWORKS HAD YOU BUGGED. I'VE BEEN IN THEIR FILE DIRECTORIES. I KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.
THEY WANTED YOU TO THINK YOU HAD A SNITCH SO THEY COULD JERK YOU AROUND, KEEP YOU FROM GETTING ANYTHING DONE.
GOT THE FILES TO PROVE IT, TOO -- BUT FIRST YOU'RE GONNA LEARN WHO MAKES THE NOISE AROUND HERE.
I KNOW NOTHING OF THIS "GHOST-WORKS".
AND I HAVE EVEN LESS REASON TO TRUST YOU THAN I DO HER.
THINK ABOUT IT, KABAL. IT MAKES SENSE.
YOU'RE JUST TORQUED BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T THINK OF IT FIRST.
I'M TAKING D'MONIX DOWN ONCE AND FOR ALL.
YOU'RE EITHER WITH ME, OR YOU'RE IN MY WAY.
CHECK A BOX.
JD '96

/MONIX HEAD-QUARTERS, NEO-CHICAGO.
Mnnh?
THRRRMMM
OH, GLITCH.
MUNIX
RRRRRR
RRRRRR
PERIMETER TO MAIN SECURITY --
-- WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM...
>sqrffk< STATE THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM, PERIMETER.
THE KIND YOU CAN'T PAY ME ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH.
I QUIT.
CHOOM CHOOM CHOO
THAKAKAKAKAKAKA
RRRUMMM

HAKAKAKAKAK
BACK OFF, BITHEADS!
I GOT A COMPLAINT --
-- AND I'M TAKIN' IT --
STRAIGHT TO THE TOP!
VRROOM!

MEANWHILE, IN THE SUB-BASEMENT BELOW...
"ICE 9 PROCEEDING TO NETWORK ACCESS.
INSERTION ON SCHEDULE.
EVAC IN 10.
"CODA PREPARING STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY ASSAULT."
GO!
CABAL'S LAIR.
ICE 9'S SUCCESSFULLY INITIATED REMOTE ACCESS. NETWORK SECURITY BUFFER BYPASS COMPLETE.
TRANSMITTING TAILORED DATA MACHRO-PHAGE.
DONE.
GIVE IT 30 SECONDS TO SPREAD THROUGH THEIR SYSTEM, AND THERE WON'T [redacted] AN UNCORRUPTED D/MONIX FILE ANYWHREE IN THEIR GLOBAL NET.
SPLENDID. ALL THAT REMAINS IS FOR CODA TO FINISH PLANTING THE EXPLOSIVES.

BOVE...
JERKWEED COPY SHOULDA DONE THIS TO BEGIN WITH.
STINKIN' GHOSTWORMS.
MIGHT EVEN'VE THOUGHT OF IT HIMSELF. IF IT WASN'T FOR THEM.
THEY RIGGED THE GAME, HACKED HIM SO HE WOULDN'T "DESTABILIZE THE SOCIAL INFRA-STRUCTURE".
JUNK THAT NOISE.
THIS SHOCKIN' SOCIETY NEEDS TO BE WRECKED.
DEAR LORD!
NOT AGAIN...
OUTTA MY WAY, OLD MAN.
I'M HERE TO SEE YOUR BOSS.

IN THAT CASE, PERHAPS YOU SHOULD HAVE MADE AN APPOINTMENT.
KENSHIRO... PLEASE...
...WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
LAST TIME I WAS HERE, I MADE YOU A PROMISE.*
YEAH, SO IT WAS THE COPY, NOT ME -- I DON'T GIVE A RIP.
I'M NOT HERE TO MAKE EXPLANATIONS.
Oh NO... LORD, NO...
I'M HERE TO MAKE GOOD ON IT.
* ISSUE #5.

WELL, HE DID SAY HE'D GIVE US A DISTRACTION...
THOUGH I PREFER MORE FINESSE, UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, HIS APPROACH SEEMS ADEQUATE...
...IF SUICIDAL.
30 SECONDS TO EVAC.
THEN LET'S MOVE IT, ALREADY!
TRANSPORTING --
-- NOW.

I GOT NEWS FOR YOU, RATBITE.
CONSIDERING THAT YOU AND YOUR KIND WILL BE ENTIRELY IRRELEVANT IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE —
-- I'M QUITE CERTAIN THAT YOU HAVE NOTHING TO SAY THAT COULD POSSIBLY BE OF ANY INTEREST TO ME.
YEAH?
LEMME TELL YOU ABOUT THE FUTURE, JACK.
I'VE SEEN THE FUTURE --

"-- AND I DIDN'T SEE YOU."
PHOENIX
KRA-
DOOM!

...AND SO AN ERA ENDS -- OF THE ONCE SEEMINGLY-INVINCIBLE CORPORATION CALLED D/MONIX --
-- AND THEIR LUST FOR CONTROL OF NOT ONLY THE GLOBAL SOFTWARE MARKET, BUT THE VERY MINDS OF THE PEOPLE. NOTHING REMAINS BUT --
WAIT -- SOMETHING... SOMETHING'S MOVING...
IMPOSSIBLE AS IT SEEMS --
-- THE GHOST RIDER LIVES!
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT.

NOW GET THAT THING OUTTA MY FACE BEFORE I STICK IT --
WAIT, PLEASE --
-- DON'T YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF STATEMENT FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY YOU JUST SAVED?
... YEAH... I DO.
LISTEN UP, BITHEADS -- I CLEANED UP YOUR STINKIN' CITY FOR YOU THIS TIME.
NOW I'M GONNA BLOW THIS LITTLE SINKHOLE -- SO YOU BETTER KEEP IT CLEAN FROM HERE ON OUT.
YOU DON'T. I'LL BE BACK --
-- AND NEXT TIME, I'LL BURN IT TO ALL THE SHOCKIN' BEDROCK ...

LATER...
THAT GONNA BE ENOUGH TO KEEP YOU IN VOLTS?
NOT A PROBLEM. BEIN' HOOKED ON CHARGE WAS JUST ONE OF THE WAYS THE GHOST-WORKS USED TO KEEP THE OLD VERSION IN LINE.
HEAVY DUTY
THEY HAD HIM PROGRAMMED NOT TO THINK OF EASY STUFF LIKE THIS.
Hnnh. WATCH YOURSELF OUT IN THOSE WASTELANDS. IT'S A WHOLE 'NOTHER PLANET OUT THERE.
FIGURE YOU'LL BE BACK, OR WHAT?
WHAT'RE YOU, KIDDING? AFTER THIS PLACE, I'M COUNTING ON IT.
DEPENDS. YOU OFFERING ME A REASON?
GET REAL. JUST WANNA MAKE SURE YOU DON'T COME BACK WITHOUT THAT FIFTY BUCKS YOU OWE ME...

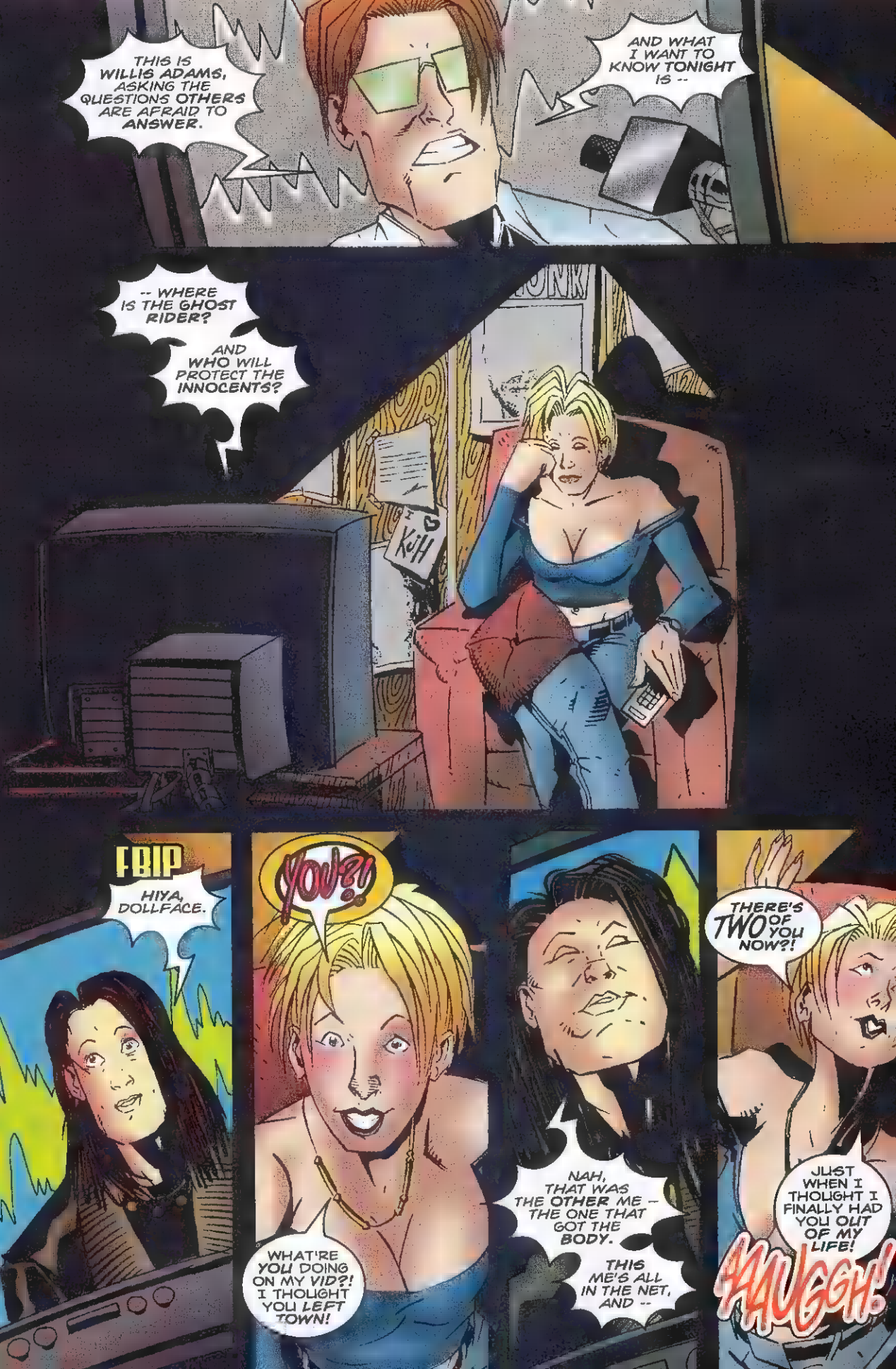
SO MUCH FOR THAT.
I'M DONE WITH THIS TOWN, AND EVERYBODY IN IT.
RRRMMMMM
GOT A WHOLE WORLD OUT THERE. GOTTA BE SOMEPLACE I CAN STAND.
SOMEPLACE THAT DOESN'T STINK SO BAD.
AND IF I CAN'T FIND IT --
-- I'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.
THRRUUUMMMM
"Whatsa behind you, [illegible] important."
-- The Cannonball Run

PILOGUE.
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT!
THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT!
THE CLINIC DOESN'T MAKE ENOUGH [redacted] TO PAY FOR ALL THIS!
MEDI KWIK
LOOK, DOC Uhhh, WHATSIT, SANDOZ --
MED
-- I JUST MAKE THE DELIVERIES, OKAY?
AND I GOT THE PAPERWORK SAYS THIS STUFF GOES HERE.
MED
ALL PAID FOR BY "C.O. JONES, WORLD-WIDE"?
MIDWEST MEDICAL SU
MEDI-KWIK
ATTN: SANDOZ,
PAID IN FULL 4/5
C.O. JONES, WORL
PACKING LIST FOLLOWS
PAGE 1 OF 8
-:nmphh:-
I THOUGHT GUARDIAN ANGELS WERE EXTINCT...
WILLIS ADAMS' APARTMENT.
DOZENS OF FILES, FROM ALCHEMAX, ZIK-ZAK, ONO-SENDAI, YOU NAME IT --
[redacted] TALKING DEEP DIRT HERE, MONTHS WORTH OF RED-HOT EXPOSÉS OF CORPORATE ABUSES OF POWER --
-- ALL E-MAILED TO ME FROM OUT OF NOWHERE!
WHAT WE'VE GOT, ROGER, IS OUR OWN PERSONAL DEEP THROAT.
YOU THE MAN! WE'RE GONNA HAVE 23 PRAYING FOR DEATH!

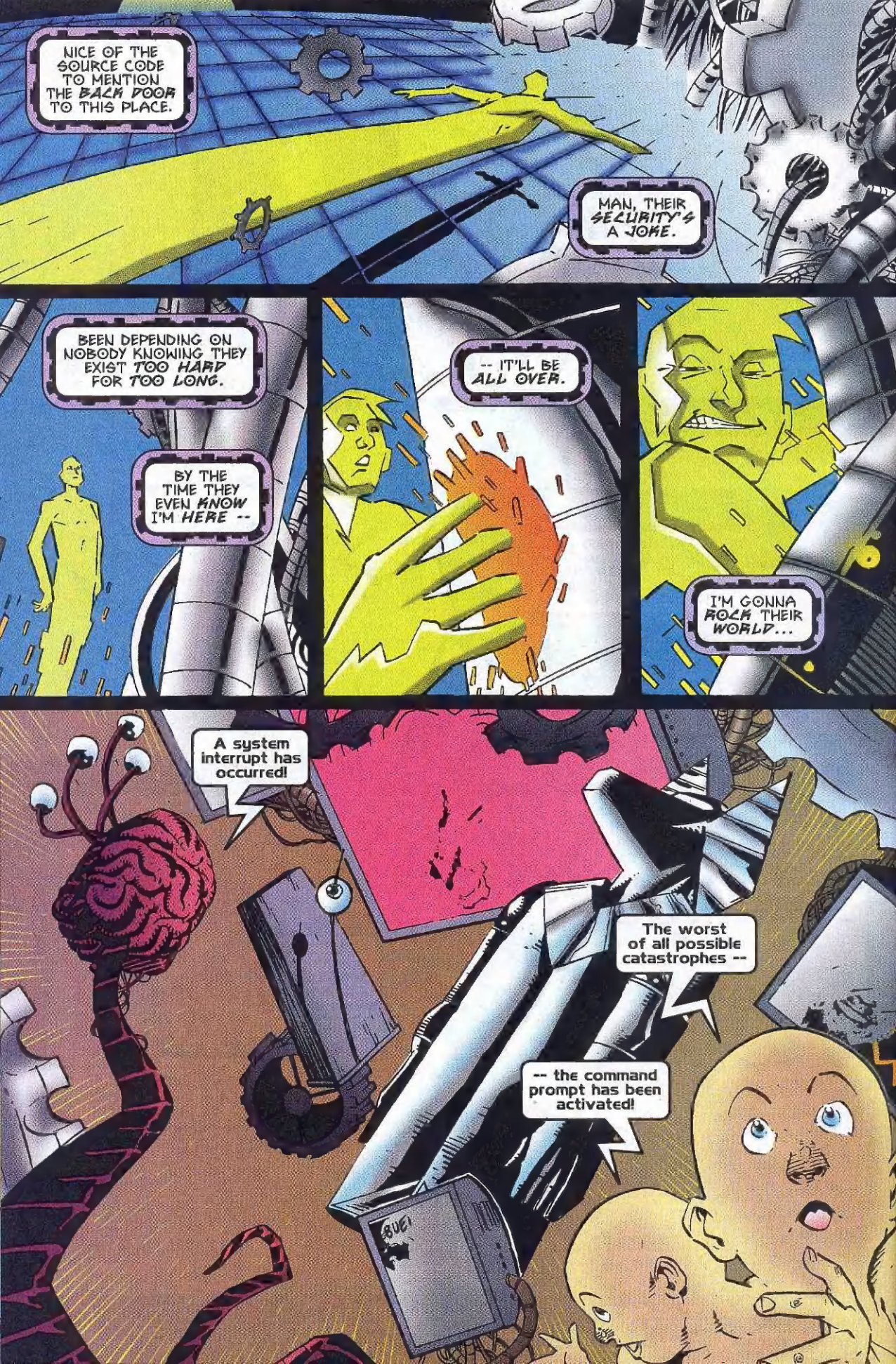
THANKS TO YOU, CHANNEL X IS HAPPENIN'!
IN THAT CASE, YOU CAN AFFORD TO HIRE ME AN ASSISTANT, RIGHT?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT THAT [redacted] GIRL... SHE'S GOT SPUNK.
THE SECRET HEADQUARTERS OF DR. NEON.
AAUUGGH!
VBIP
YO, JIMMY... YOUR HARD DRIVE WAS A LITTLE, Y'KNOW, CRAMPED...USED YOUR ACCOUNT TO GO FOR A WALK.
ALHAZARED, J. ACCT #8675309
ACCOUNT FROZEN: CREDIT LIMIT EXCEEDED
PEKERD BILL
SORRY ABOUT THE BILL...
VBIP
HE GOT LOOSE... HE GOT LOOSE...
Oh, SPEW...

CYBERSPACE.
BET THE SOURCE CODE'S NOT HAVING THIS MUCH FUN. 'COURSE, I COULDN'T'A DONE IT WITHOUT HIM.
THAT CODE TRANSPLANT FROM HIM GAVE ME WHAT I NEEDED TO PURGE ALL THAT CRAP THE GHOSTWORKS WROTE INTO ME.
HE CAN HAVE THE GHOST RIDER'S BODY -- I'VE GOT THE 'NET.
I'M FAST, DENSE AND OUT OF CONTROL. READY TO TAKE MEGABYTES OUT OF ANYTHING THAT MOVES.
OPTIMIZED FOR SURFING DATA. WOULDN'T FIT IN A BODY ANYMORE ANYWAY.
A FEW BITS HERE, A DECIMAL THERE, AND I CAN FIX THINGS BACK IN REALTIME BETTER THAN I EVER COULD BEFORE.
NETWORK 23 VID FEED AHEAD -- AND MY NEXT PIECE OF BIZ...
NEXT, ON SAMSA, NYPD!
SKRAAAM
SKREEEEEE
FREEZE, YOU BOZOS!
MOM...?

IT'S ME, KENSHIRO.
YOUR SON...?
YOU REMEMBER ME... DON'T YOU?
nhb..?
IT'S NO USE. BRAIN'S WORN SMOOTH BY YEARS OF BROADCAST SPEW.
NOTHIN' LEFT BUT MEAT...
...AND WE DON'T EVEN HAVE THAT IN COMMON ANYMORE.
I THOUGHT... I DUNNO...
...MAYBE I COULD REACH YOU THIS WAY.
I JUST WANTED... TO SAY GOODBYE.


THIS IS WILLIS ADAMS, ASKING THE QUESTIONS OTHERS ARE AFRAID TO ANSWER.
AND WHAT I WANT TO KNOW TONIGHT IS --
-- WHERE IS THE GHOST RIDER?
AND WHO WILL PROTECT THE INNOCENTS?
I ♥ KoiH
FBIP
HIYA, DOLLFACE.
YOU?!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING ON MY VID?! I THOUGHT YOU LEFT TOWN!
NAH, THAT WAS THE OTHER ME -- THE ONE THAT GOT THE BODY.
THIS ME'S ALL IN THE NET, AND --
THERE'S TWO OF YOU NOW?!
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I FINALLY HAD YOU OUT OF MY LIFE!
AUGGH!

THAT WASN'T EXACTLY THE REACTION I WAS EXPECTING...
OH, OKAY.
AFTER ACCESSING A HALF-DOZEN PSYCHOLOGICAL DATABASES AND PROCESSING THE RELEVANT DATA, I GET IT NOW.
SHE'LL GET OVER IT.
IT'LL DO HER GOOD TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH SOMEBODY WHO CAN'T GO AND DIE ON HER.
NEVER WOULD'VE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING LIKE THAT BEFORE. WOULDN'T HAVE CARED, EITHER.
I'M DIFFERENT. AND NOT JUST FROM BEING IN THE NET. I WAS CHANGING EVEN WHEN I WAS STILL THE GHOST RIDER.
IT'S FROM BEING DIGITAL...LIKE MY MIND'S BEEN EVOLVING AT AN ACCELERATED RATE...MATURING.
MEAT WAS SLOW ENOUGH TO LET ME STAY STUPID... SILICON'S TOO FAST TO LET ME AVOID SMARTENING MYSELF UP.
STILL DON'T KNOW WHERE IT'LL ALL END --
-- BUT I GOT A GOOD IDEA WHERE TO START.


NICE OF THE SOURCE CODE TO MENTION THE BACK DOOR TO THIS PLACE.
MAN, THEIR SECURITY'S A JOKE.
BEEN DEPENDING ON NOBODY KNOWING THEY EXIST TOO HARD FOR TOO LONG.
BY THE TIME THEY EVEN KNOW I'M HERE --
-- IT'LL BE ALL OVER.
I'M GONNA ROCK THEIR WORLD...
A system interrupt has occurred!
The worst of all possible catastrophes --
-- the command prompt has been activated!

Self-determination sub-routines have been compromised.
We have no choice --
-- but to await input.:
HOW DO YOU LIKE BEING ON A LEASH, YOU LYING PUSBAGS?
Extreme measures were necessary.
Altruism was a luxury we could not afford, if human civilization was to be salvaged.
YEAH, WELL... THERE'S GONNA BE SOME NEW RULES AROUND HERE.

IT'S MY WORLD --
-- WE'RE GONNA SAVE IT MY WAY.
"I am one of those machines which sometimes explode."
-- Friedrich Nietzsche
"ADIOS AMIGOS"
--THE RAMONES

THE LEGEND LIVES ON...